

General Certificate of Secondary Education

A354 CA

Classical Civilisation

Unit A354: Culture and Society in the
Classical World

Specimen controlled assessment tasks

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS

- Please refer to Section 5 of the GCSE Classical Civilisation specification for instructions on completing controlled assessment tasks.
- Candidates complete one task relating to the option that they have studied.
- Candidates must not alter the wording of the tasks, however they may focus on any appropriate area of investigation within the parameters of the questions set.
- The total number of marks for each Task is **60**.
- You will be awarded marks for the quality of written communication of your answer.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

Culture and Society in the Classical World

Option 1: *Sophocles Antigone*

How would an ancient Athenian audience have responded to Antigone's behaviour in Sophocles' *Antigone*?

This question will require candidates to select relevant quotations from Sophocles' *Antigone* to support their discussion of the main theme of the question.

They must show understanding of the literature in the context of its contemporary society.

They are not restricted from using other appropriate sources to support their analysis and evaluation.

[60]

Option 2: *Aristophanes Lysistrata*

How successful was Aristophanes in making the *Lysistrata* amusing for his audience?

This question will require candidates to select relevant quotations from Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* to support their discussion of the main theme of the question.

They must show understanding of the literature in the context of its contemporary society.

They are not restricted from using other appropriate sources to support their analysis and evaluation.

[60]

Option 3: *The Olympic Games*

To what extent was warfare a major contributor to the events in the ancient Olympic Games?

This question will require candidates to select relevant original source material on the Olympic Games to support their discussion of the main theme of the question.

They must show understanding of the role of Olympic Games in the context of ancient Greek society.

They are not restricted from using other appropriate sources to support their analysis and evaluation.

[60]

Option 4: Virgil *The Aeneid*

To what extent is *The Aeneid* more about a nation than an individual?

This question will require candidates to select relevant quotations from Virgil's *The Aeneid* to support their discussion of the main theme of the question.

They must show understanding of the literature in the context of its contemporary society.

They are not restricted from using other sources to support their analysis and evaluation.

Candidates will not be expected to make reference to every book of *The Aeneid* but to select sections that are relevant to the theme of the question.

[60]

Option 5: Pliny *Letters*

Pliny says, 'Slaves always have two sides to their nature. They act with reason like men. They also act by instinct like animals.'

Do you think that this is an accurate reflection of Pliny's attitude to slaves?

This question will require candidates to select relevant quotations from Pliny's *Letters* to support their discussion of the main theme of the question.

They must show understanding of the literature in the context of its contemporary society.

They are not restricted from using other sources to support their analysis and evaluation.

Candidates will not be expected to make reference to every book of Pliny's letters but to select letters that are relevant to the theme of the question.

[60]

Option 6: Roman Britain

Using evidence from a Roman villa, explain why the Romans developed villas in Britain.

This question will require candidates to select relevant source material from a Roman villa to support their discussion of the main theme of the question.

They must show understanding of the role of villas in the context of Roman Britain.

They are not restricted from using other appropriate sources to support their analysis and evaluation.

[60]

SPECIMEN

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The maximum mark for each of these tasks is **60**.

SPECIMEN

	AO1 Recall, select and organise relevant knowledge of literature and its contexts and/or of society and values of the classical world.	AO2 Demonstrate an understanding of literature and its contexts and/or of society and values of the classical world.	AO3 Interpret, evaluate and respond to literature and its contexts and/or of society and values of the classical world.
Thorough	17-21 Demonstrates thorough knowledge based on a full range of relevant factual information and evidence. Gives a detailed overview. Text is legible and spelling, grammar and punctuation are accurate. Meaning is communicated clearly.	15-18 Demonstrates thorough understanding of evidence with clear and detailed explanation.	17-21 Thorough evaluation with detailed analysis of evidence. They construct an informed personal response to the question.
Sound	12-16 Demonstrates sound knowledge based on a range of relevant factual information and evidence. Gives a sound overview. Text is legible and spelling, grammar and punctuation are mostly accurate. Meaning is communicated clearly.	11-13 Demonstrates sound understanding of evidence with explanation.	12-16 Sound evaluation with analysis of evidence. They offer a personal response to the question.
Some	8-11 Demonstrates some relevant knowledge based on a range of factual information and evidence. Gives a partial overview. Text is legible. There are mistakes in spelling, grammar and punctuation however meaning is still communicated clearly for most of the answer.	7-10 Demonstrates some understanding of evidence with some explanation.	8-11 Some evaluation with some analysis of evidence. They offer a personal response to some of the question.
Limited	4-7 Demonstrates limited relevant knowledge and information. Text is sometimes illegible and there are mistakes in spelling, grammar and punctuation, which sometimes hinder communication.	4-6 Demonstrates limited understanding of evidence.	4-7 Limited evaluation and analysis of the evidence. Answers offer a personal response at a limited level.
Minimal/ None	0-3 Demonstrates minimal or no relevant knowledge. Text is often illegible. Frequent mistakes in spelling, grammar and punctuation impede communication of meaning.	0-3 Demonstrates minimal or no understanding of evidence.	0-3 Minimal or no evaluation of the evidence. Answers offer a minimal personal response, or no response.